

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS CHARLES C. YANCEY AND CHUCK TURNER

## STANLEY POLLACK

- WHEREAS: Stanley Pollack, developer of the Teen Empowerment model, began his career as a street outreach worker for the city of Somerville, Massachusetts in 1973; and
- WHEREAS: Pollack implemented the model in communities throughout Massachusetts from 1982 to 1992; and
- WHEREAS: Pollack founded The Center for Teen Empowerment, Inc. in 1992, with the support of the Boston Foundation and the Hayden and Riley Foundations; and
- WHEREAS: The Center's work, with teens as youth organizers, culminated in the first Youth Peace Conference in May 1993, which brought together five rival gangs to create a peace treaty; and
- WHEREAS: The Teens emphasized the connection between gang violence and the lack of jobs and educational opportunities available to urban youth, highlighting the pervasive racial and class biases that were helping fuel the rage that many urban youth were expressing through gang-related and other destructive and self-destructive activities; and
- WHEREAS: The Teens successfully focused their organizing efforts to push the city, local businesses, and media outlets to expand youth employment programs, and they encouraged the Boston Police Department to increase community policing programs and decrease the practice of negatively profiling neighborhood youth; and
- WHEREAS: Teen Empowerment's work, which includes designing and facilitating training sessions for teachers, police, and human service and youth service providers, developing curricula for schools, residential treatment facilities, and vocational training programs, has been implemented at several sites throughout the City of Boston, as well as in Somerville, Massachusetts, and in Rochester, New York; Be It Therefore

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, congratulates Stanley Pollack for originating the Teen Empowerment Model, and bringing people together into working groups to achieve goals of creating positive change.



By: [Signature]  
President of the City Council

Attest: Rosaria Salerno  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]  
Date: March 10, 2010